

True Copies of the Papers which Brigadier Rookwood, and Major Lowick, delivered to the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, at Tyburn, April 29. 1696. 11

Published by Authority.

**W**HEREAS the Sheriff of London and Middlesex is charged in a late Printed Paper, containing a Copy of Brigadier Rookwood's Speech, *That he had long failed of his Trust and Duty*, in not Publishing the said Paper: Now the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex do hereby declare, That when Mr. Rookwood deliver'd his Paper at the Place of Execution to them, April 29. last past, the said Mr. Rookwood did not make it his desire to them, neither did they promise him, that his Paper should be Printed. However, they do now think fit to publish true Copies of the several Papers delivered to them by Rookwood and Lowick, Written with their own Hands. They also declare, That they saw the Executioner take another Paper out of Rookwood's Pocket after he was dead, written in a different Hand, but containing the same words with the Paper delivered to the Sheriffs.

The Sheriffs do further declare, That that Paper published soon after the Execution of the said Criminals, Intituled, An Account of the Execution of Brigadier Rookwood, Major Lowick, and Mr. Cranburn, at Tyburn, April 29. 1696. was taken in Writing, Printed by their Order, and is exactly the Truth of what passed there.

EDW. WILLS. O. BUCKINGHAM.

*Brigadier ROOKWOOD's Paper.*

**H**AVING committed the Justice of my Cause, and recommended my Soul to God, on whose Mercies, through the Merits of Jesus Christ, I wholly cast my self, I had once resolved to dye in Silence; but second Thoughts of my Duty to others, chiefly to my True and Liege Sovereign King James, moved me to leave this behind me.

I do therefore with all Truth and Sincerity declare and avow, That I never knew, saw, or heard of any Order or Commission from King James, for the Assassinating the Prince of Orange, and Attacking his Guards; but I am certainly inform'd, That he, the best of Kings, had often rejected Proposals of that Nature when made unto him.

Nor do I think he knew the least of the particular Design of the Attacking the Guards at his Landing, so much talk'd of, in which I was engag'd as a Soldier by my immediate Commander, much against my Judgement; but his Soldier I was, and as such, I was to obey and act according to Command.

These twelve Years I have served my true King and Master, King James, and freely now lay down my Life in his Cause. I ever abhor'd Treachery, even to an Enemy: If it be a guilt, to have complied with what I thought, and still think to have been my Duty, I am guilty; no other guilt do I own.

As I beg of all to forgive me, so I forgive all from my heart, even the Prince of Orange, who as a Soldier ought to have considered my Case, before he sign'd the Warrant for my Death. I pray God may open his Eyes, and render him sensible of the much Blood from all Parts crying out against him, so to prevent a heavier Execution hanging over his Head, than what he inflicts on me.

*Amb. Rookwood.*

*Major LOWICK's Paper.*

*In the Name of the Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**I**N the first place, I dye in the Religion I was Baptized, (*viz.*) Roman Catholick, and humbly beg the Prayers of all Good People for a happy Resurrection, and of all Catholicks for the good of my Soul.

As for being engag'd in this for which I dye, it was never so positive that I had a Horse, from the beginning to the very last, nor never see any so allotted for me, or the two Men I was to provide, as was sworn again me at my Trial; nor had I any on that account; nor was I at any of their Meetings when they settled any such thing: And as for any Order or Commission from King James, I never see any since I came last into England, which is now about five years; and I am confident, none that knows King James, will believe he would give any such Order.

Indeed I must confess, I believ'd King James was a coming to Assert his own Right; and I should, if on Shore, have done any thing in my power to have assisted him, and in order to that, I should have been glad to have a Horse, but never had any.

And as for being concern'd in any Bloody Affair, I never was in my Life, but have done my endeavour to prevent, as much as I could, on all occasions; and if the Killing the most miserable Creature in the World (or greatest Enemy) would now save my Life, Restore the King, and make me one of the greatest Men in England, I would first chuse to dye, because against the Law of God.

If any who are now Sufferers on this account, think I have been too forward, and a Promoter of this Design, I do now declare it was never my Inclination to do any rash thing. However, I beg their Pardons, and of all the World I have offended, either in Thought, Word, or any Action whatsoever, and do freely forgive my Enemies, and hope through the Mercy of my Saviour Jesus Christ, to have Remission of all my Sins. Good God preserve the King, Queen, Prince, and Princess, and all that Royal Blood of *Stewards*, and may England never want one of that Direct Line to Govern them, and make them once more happy. I have had the Honour to serve my Royal Master in several Commissions, and the last as Major, and strive ever to serve him to the best of my Power, and ever to be just to those who I had the Honour to Command. Lord Jesus into thy Hands I Recommend my Spirit! O Jesus receive my Soul!

*Robert Lowick.*